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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Plans of Nationalist Party

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* SOURCE

1. An official of the Arab Socialist Party has stated that in June 1950 the Nationalist Party leaders, after consulting with Shukri Quwwatli and representatives of Egypt and Saudi Arabia, amended their plans for federation between Syria and Iraq. They now do not intend to proceed with federation until the Hashimite regime in Iraq is replaced by a republican one. They, accordingly, have established close contacts with those parties in Iraq which oppose the Hashimites, and are working in conjunction with them for the replacement of the Iraqi King by a President; their candidate for this post is Rashid 'Ali Gaylani.
2. A senior official in the Nationalist Party has stated that the Union of Parties' foreign policy is in line with that of the Nationalist Party as described in Paragraph 1 above, with the added proviso that the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty shall be abrogated before Syria enters into a federation with Iraq. The Union's internal policy, which aims at the return of Shukri Quwwatli to the Presidency of the Syrian Republic, is attempting to organize Party "militia organizations" and to find support among senior Army officers in the hope of using them, backed by the militia organizations, in order to bring about a coup d'etat aimed at ousting the present Syrian ruling military clique.

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Comment. See

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